

April 2004

Volume 1, Issue 2

OCS Newsletter



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*If you have any suggestions or comments regarding the **OCS Newsletter** contact CH (CPT) Bucur at 545-1646 or email your feedback at: daniel.bucur@us.army.mil*

Commander's Remarks

"Cadre and families of 3-11th OCS BN, this has been a tremendously busy and satisfying 2nd QTR (JAN – March)!! Along with the first class job of commissioning literally hundreds of candidates into officers from C CO, B CO and A CO we have also been engaged in other vital events relevant to our organization. First this BN executed the tremendously successful OCS 2004 Hall of Fame Week for those distinguished 41 graduates deserving recognition for a lifetime of service for the nation. I firmly believe the candidates and cadre got a lot out of this event as well as the inductees themselves. This event also took a tremendous amount of work from the entire cadre to pull

this event off. Of special note is CPT Torres in the BN S3 Shop and our BN XO Major Gehler, Margo Davis, CPT Morgan, the S1 and the entire line company cadre. Thank you all for your professionalism and efforts! The BN is also in the midst of a complete re-write of the School Program of Instruction, the OCS SOP and the TAC Certification Program. The details being inputted into this key document come directly from the TAC Officers and NCOs with an eye to making this school better than ever. As your BN CDR and School Commandant I cannot express my appreciation to the entire cadre for your dedication and efforts along with the support of your families in the execution of

your duties. Upcoming key events in May and June are a BN Hail and Farewell scheduled for 13 May to say good bye/Hello to the summer transition, JMAC at Navy (Pensacola) on 15 May, and the BN Organizational Day on Friday 21 May. More detailed information on these events is forthcoming! Lastly as we move into the summer months I urge all of us in the BN to look after each other and their families in terms of heat, water safety and traveling during the summer season. Thanks for all that you do!! Standards! No Compromise!"

Bradley W. Booth
LTC, IN
Commanding
3/11 Infantry

Alpha Company

A/3-11 is finishing up a fantastic cycle. We have trained the best Officer Candidates I have seen in 2 years. The company is going through preparations to pick up a vital BN Mission. We are responsible for developing the BN TAC SOP. This gives us an opportunity to give future TACs the necessary tools to TAC. We are also prepping for some CARE moves. We are losing CPT Bolduan to ICCG in BN July as well as CPT Kennedy.

We are also losing CPT Le to PCS. The real sad news for us and the Army is that CPT Blevins and his Wife Regina are leaving the Army family in pursuit of a civilian career. The most significant loss is my Right arm and the back bone of the Company 1SG Cook and his wife Windy. They are heading off to the SGM Academy. The sad part for me is that Karen and I are also leaving the BN. I am going to American Samoa for one year and Karen will be in

"Finishing up a fantastic cycle."



A Company learns how to clear buildings

the Montgomery, AL area. Karen and I have enjoyed our time in the BN and we will miss you all. Standards! No Compromise!

William S. Moncrief
CPT, IN
Commanding
A/3-11 Infantry

Bravo Company

B Co has just graduated 89 new 2nd Lieutenants plus one to graduate on the "delayed program." Class 502-04 made up of 90% College Option students was a challenge. Many of the Candidates had to deal for the first time with suffering and discomfort. However, this class found comfort in chow and made it their top priority. The TACs and B Co cadre put extremely long hours into this batch and its product reflects well. B Co would like to express their gratitude to the family members, fiancés, and girlfriends that supported the TACs on many of those long hard days and nights. It is your understanding and support that allows us to perform and contribute to the Battalion's mission.

Here are some changes in our company: CPT Sawyer will change command on May 17th; SR TAC, CPT Busler will move to

the Dismounted Battle Lab on Post; 4th PLT TAC Officer, CPT Cheney and our 3rd PLT TAC Officer, CPT Jackson made a professional decision to leave active duty and carry on their careers in the Reserves/Guard system. You will be missed. B Co would like to welcome SFC Tilson and SPC Ferriert. Get ready for a ride, and we look forward to

"Bravo Company takes a breather."

working with you both. During the next couple of months B Co will get caught up on schooling and to get ready to pick up the National Guard Phase III cycle in June.

Sterling A. Sawyer
CPT, IN
Commanding
B/3-11 Infantry

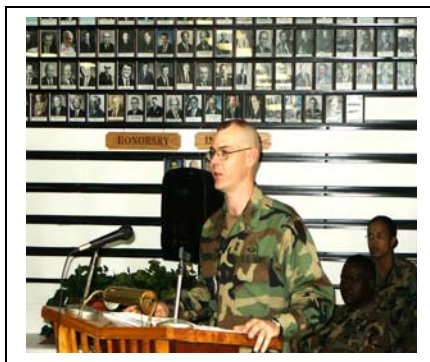
Charlie Company

After the Change of Command Ceremony on 3 March, Charlie Company began to enjoy an extended cycle break. We are in the process of revising the Officer Candidate Standard Operating Procedures (OCSOP). Through a thorough review, additions and changes are being made to increase the functionality as well as the enforcement of a standardized OCSOP throughout the battalion. Additionally, we are preparing for our June 13 Cycle pickup of OCS Class 507-04. During this class we will execute a new revised Program of Instruction (POI) that Delta Company has been working on. Through this cycle break, we are losing CPT Haynes and CPT Calvert and picking up new officers to begin

"C CO is revising the OCSOP"

TAC train up. On the NCO side, we gained SFC Greenwood and SFC Davis. Charlie Company is looking forward to the cycle pickup and the thrill of the new candidates.

Roger D. O'Steen, Jr.
CPT, AR
Commanding



CPT O'Steen the new C Co Commander

"STANDARDS! NO COMPROMISE!"

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B Company test fires before the mission.

Delta Company

D Co continues to revise the Program of Instruction for the OCS program as well preparing to pick up our next cycle on 25 Apr 04. Congratulations to CPT and Mrs. Rausch on the birth of their daughter, Meredith Delaney. D Co Welcomes: SFC Brown from 1 ID and SFC Stewart and family from 3 ID.

Thanks for a job well done.

Dawg 6

MICKEY A. TURNER
CPT, AG
Commanding
D Co, 3/11(OCS)

OCS UPCOMING EVENTS:

LEADER CERTIFICATION PERIOD 3-5 May

FRG MEETING 5 May 04 at 1700, Wigle Hall

BN HAIL AND FAIRWELL 12 May at B Merrell's

B COMPANY CHANGE OF COMMAND 14 May 04 at 0900, Wigle Hall

JMAC 15 May 04

BATTALION AWARD CEREMONY 19 May 04 at 0900, Wigle Hall

BATTALION SAFETY DAY 21 May 04: 1630 Super Right Army at O'Club

MEMORIAL DAY TRAINING HOLIDAY 29-31 May

Ladies meet for coffee in the 3rd week of each month. If you have any questions call Janette Gehler at 494-8286.

HHC

Hello everyone, I am CPT Barry Level. I took command of HHC on 26 March and have been thoroughly impressed with the determination with which this battalion operates. Considering that we have shortages in all staffs and that most of the staff has been on the ground less than two months, I can only imagine the potential in making our



SFC DeFelice is recognized by LTC Booth and CSM O'Neil.

systems more efficient. I want to welcome MSG Sherrod and SFC Taylor. You are already having a tremendous impact. We regretfully bid farewell to Mrs. Davis, SGT Martin, SFC Defelice, and SSG Chewning. As this is my first newsletter column in this command, I want to share a synopsis of my vision for the company. I am genuinely concerned for the cadre's quality of life in this organization. I believe that each of you is dedicated to mission accomplishment and to your family. The key is to find the balance of each. The bottom line is that we are all soldiers and basic soldier skills must be maintained. The Chief of Staff of the Army has

stated, "Every Soldier is a rifleman first." I understand that as a challenge to my command to ensure that we are efficiently maintaining basic skills proficiency. By efficiently, I mean well planned and executed training to limit the time required away from you duties within the battalion. If training is scheduled for 0800, it begins at 0800 and ends at the prescribed time as well. I will personally review each class or training session with priority to reaching training objectives and not wasting your time. The FRG has definitely been set up for success by the Morgan command team. The organization is one of the best I have seen in any unit. I vow to continue the success of the FRG, but I am looking

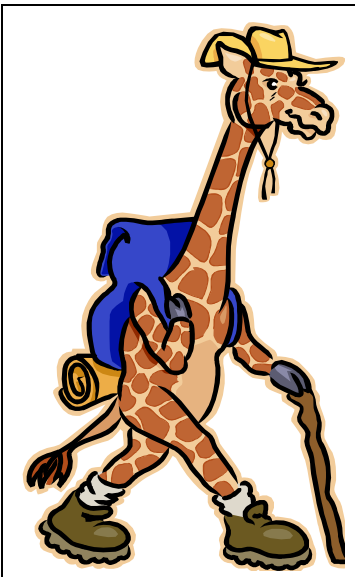


11th Regiment Infantry Branch Run

for a volunteer FRG leader to assist the group planning and resourcing events and initiatives. I look forward to working with each of you and learning your jobs so I can better support your mission success. My name is Barry Level and I approved this add.

BARRETT L. LEVEL
CPT, IN
Commanding
HHC/3-11 IN (OCS)

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



Food for the journey!

There is a terrible story about a man who went out to play golf early one Saturday morning. His wife became concerned when he had not returned home by dinner time. It wasn't until about midnight when he came through the front door, exhausted. "Where have you been?" she demanded. "I've been playing golf" came the reply. "But that was 18 hours ago. What happened?" "I was having the best game of my life. I was two under par when on the seventh tee Harry had a heart attack and died." His wife still didn't understand. "After that it was hit the ball, drag Harry - hit the ball drag Harry." This story reminds me of one of my worst enemies - "tunnel vision." I have the tendency to focus on one thing and one thing only, and thus I miserably fail to acknowledge obvious things that happen around me. Have you ever done that? Have you ever put family, friends, or people that care for you behind your dreams, career goals or wishes? I have and I am ashamed of the hurt I caused. One day thought I had to stop. I was too tired. As I was catching my breath I heard a voice whispering, "Be still and know that I am God!"

"...God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear. The Lord Almighty is with us. Come and see the works of the Lord. He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear. Be still and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the nations. I will be exalted in the earth. The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress."

Psalm 46

Would you like to be quoted in a book to inspire other military spouses? A book is being written for military spouses entitled *Military Wife: Don't I get a Life Too? How to Follow Your Dreams While You Follow the Military*. As part of the research stories are collected of military spouses who have been able to create a life, a program, a business, a career that allows them to pursue their passion as they live this military life. Do you have an example to share? It can be anything from creative

moving tips to parenting ideas to full-blown stories about your mobile career of business success to great community programs you've developed or been involved with. It can be your own story or the example of a friend who is a military spouse. Send your example to Kathie@jumpintolife.net with your snailmail address. In return you will receive a free copy of Kathie's *Joyful Living* booklet.

Lowe's
Motor Speedway
Charlotte, NC
Offers discounted NASCAR tickets for Military personnel:

- May 22 – Free pre race concert by the band "Live" (Price: \$20)
- May 30 – **Coca Cola 600**
Performance by the 82nd entertainment (Price \$30)

CALL 1800-455-FANS

EMPLOYMENT READINESS PROGRAM (ERP)

The ERP assists spouses, children, veterans, and retirees of active duty and DoD civilians with opportunities to seek employment on and off post. The weekly Job Vacancy List averages over 400 openings each week. These jobs include Civil Service, Non-appropriated Fund, contract, and local businesses. Job Strategy workshop are held on 6 and 20 May. **Call Mark Mills 545-7517/5516 to pre-register.**

Asian Pacific Luau
at
uchee creek

14 May 04

Enjoy Asian Pacific foods
and traditional Pacific
dances.

Financial Readiness Program (FRP) THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN OPEN SEASON AND TRAINING

The current Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Open Season will last through 30 June 2004. During the Open Season you can start or increase your contributions. The TSP is the federal government's long-term, tax-advantaged 401(K) type savings plan. The primary purpose of

this type of plan is saving for retirement, so there may be penalties for withdrawal of funds prior to age 60. Soldiers can contribute from base pay, special and incentive pays, and bonuses. Contributions are not included in taxable income. To get more

information about the TSP you can visit their website, www.tsp.gov or call the Army Community service Center Financial Readiness Program at 545-5485. Classes will also be held on May 7 and June 11, from 10:00 to noon; reservations are required.

"We are judged by our actions,
not by our intentions."

Traditional

"I've always been in the right
place at the right time. Of
course, I steered myself there."

Bob Hope

"In the middle of difficulty lies
opportunity."

Albert Einstein

"From there to here, and here to
there, funny things are
everywhere."

Dr. Seuss

"It's easy to make a buck. It's a
lot tougher to make a
difference."

Tom Brokaw

Religious Centers and Education

Vacation Bible School – The Fort Benning Ministry Team will host Vacation Bible School from the 14th to the 18th of June at White Elementary School for children ages 4-10.

Club Beyond – Meets at the Chapel Teen Center on Sundays 4-5 pm for middle school and 6-7 pm for high school youths. Contact Bruce Mulford at 545-2050 for more information.

Marriage Enrichment Classes are held the 1st Friday of each month, 0830 -1300. Call 545-1760.

Protestant Women of the Chapel meets every Thursday, 9:30 am at Custer Terrace Chapel. Call Natalie Rauch 221-5607 for more info.

Important Phone numbers:

American Red Cross: 545-5194 (Lorrie Pierre)
Army Community Service: 545-4043 (Marilyn Wallace)
Army Family Action Plan: 545-5377/2794 (Sarah Hertig)
Enlisted Spouses Club: 685-8787 (Maria Trevino)
Fort Benning Officers' Club: 682-0640/0643
Installation Volunteer Coordinator: 545-3016
Martin Army Hospital: 544-20412042
TRICARE Prime: 544-2041
Protestant Women of the Chapel: 323-0128 (Christa Moore)
Retirement Services Office: 545-5369
Tot Town: 689-8698
Family Life Center: 545-1760
Catholic Chapel Activities: 545-1452 (Father O'Keeffe)
Post Chaplain's Office: 545-2288
Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers: 545-6800
MP Station, Bldg. 215: 545-5222/5223/5224
JAG, Bldg. 5: 545-3281/4611
Website for Fort Benning: www.benning.army.mil